(d) if so, the details of the parameters set by Government to grant permission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) As on date, Government has permitted 454 private satellite TV channels to downlink in India.

(c) and (d) The permissions to uplink TV channels from India and downlink TV channels in India are given as per uplinking and downlinking guidelines, respectively under which there is no provision for the channels to take separate permission to telecast their programmes. However, all programmes of satellite TV channels transmitted or re-transmitted through cable service are required to adhere to the provisions of the Programme/Advertising Codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder.

Setting up of new FM radio stations

†2475. SHRI SAMAN PATHAK: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to set up more new FM radio stations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in commissioning of a proposed FM radio station at Darjeeling; and

(d) by when construction of FM radio station at Darjeeling is likely to commence?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. S. JAGATHRAKSHAKAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 193 new All India Radio (AIR) FM Stations are under implementation. As regards private FM, the policy for FM Phase-III is under consideration for extension of FM Radio services through private agencies in other parts of the country. The details are yet to be finalized.

(c) The reasons for delay in commissioning of AIR FM radio station at Darjeeling are:

(i) Dispute with the landowner of adjacent plots.

(ii) Non-availability of approach road for commencing the construction work.

(d) Prasar Bharati has informed that the demarcation of site has now been done & approach road has been provided. Permanent security fencing has been made. Works of technical building and 100 meter tower have been started. Action for procurement of equipment has also been initiated.

Telecast of unhealthy news

†2476. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

---

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.